

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 7, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In a Raman amplification method according to another aspect of the present invention, in the bidirectional pumping, distribution of the power of pumping light to wavelengths is changed from that of backward pumping and a mutli-mode pumping laser with an LD (laser diode) chip having a wavelength-stabilizing grating structure is employed as a forward pumping light source.